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Admiral Stansfield Turner, USN.  
Director of Central Intelligence  
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Admiral Turner:

I am a midshipman at Annapolis in the Class of [ ] and have recently been selected to compete for a Rhodes Scholarship in the State of Maryland this fall. Realizing that you are a former Rhodes Scholar, as well as Academy graduate, I am writing to ask your advice concerning the program at Oxford.

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Firstly, I am beginning my preparation now for the selection board. I realize that the curriculum at the Naval Academy makes it difficult to obtain the diversified liberal arts background that is required of a prospective Rhodes Scholar. What manner of preparation would you suggest in the six months before the state board?

Secondly, I will undoubtedly be asked to evaluate the value of an Oxford education to a career military officer in the service of his country. How has your experiences at Oxford served you in your career? Do you consider the experience worthwhile? Would you do it again, if given the chance? Along these lines, it would help me if you describe your choice of studies at Oxford, and your reasons you chose the line of study you did.

Finally, it would help me to have some insight into the selection process. What qualities does the board seek in a prospective Rhodes Scholar, and how do they attempt to discover these qualities in their interview? What type of questions can I expect, in other words.

Any assistance you could offer would be greatly appreciated. I hope this does not interfere with your busy schedule.

Very respectfully.

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